A

CHRONOLOGICAL

HISTORY

OF THE

KINGS OF ENGLAND

From the Norman Conquest Down to the

PRESENT TIME.

TO WHICH IS ADDED

AN ACCOUNT OF THE

Natural Curiosities of

ENGLAND.

YORK

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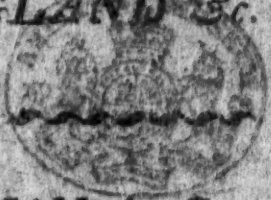
THE HISTORY OF ALL THE KINGS AND QUEENS OF ENGLAND &c. &c.



WILLIAM the Conqueror began his reign over England October 14, 1066. he was a great Warrior, and much oppreſſed the Engliſh nation, he reigned 20 years, 11 months, twenty two days and lies buried at Caen in Normandy.

By bloody Battles, conqueſt, and by Fate
Fair England's Crown and Kingdom he ſur-
pris'd,
He topſey turvy, turn'd the Engliſh State,
And laws and Cuſtoms new and ſtrange de-
vis'd.

At last his sword, Crown, and sceptre, conqueſt brave.
He left, he loſt, ſcarce found an Earthly grave.

2. William Rufus or red face, the ſecond son of the Conqueror began his reign Septem'er 9. 1087. He was much given to Covetousneſs, pride and Leachery; Reigned twelve years, twelve months and 19 days and was buried in Wincheſter.

What his Triumphant Father won, beheld,
He pill'd, and poll'd this Kingdom more, he
Great Tributs from his People he compel'd
No Place in Church or common-wealth was free.
But hunting in new-Foreſt (void of fear)
A ſubject slew him shooting at a Deer.

3. Henry then begins his Reign Auguſt 2. 1100 He reformed the Engliſh meaſures, and made one by the length of his Arms, which is called an Ell, he reigned 35 years

4 months, and 11 days, and was buried at Reading.

His Father and his brother Kings being gone
With acclamations Royal he was Crown'd,
And having gain'd the Sceptre and the Throne,
Was by the name of Beau-clark much renown'd.
Yet though Kings live like Gods, but men they be.
All muſt pay Natures due and ſo did he.

4. King Stephen began his reign Dec. 1. 1155. He ſpent his reign in continual Wars with Maud the Empreſs, he reigned 18 years, 11 months, and 18 days and was buried at Feverſham.

By wrefted titles and Uſurping claim.
Through ſtorms and Tempeſts of Tumultuous wars,
The Crown (Fair Englands gem) he made his aim,

Won it, an wore it, beleaguer'd round
with jars.

At laſt he died, chang'd Kindom and
his Strength.

For a ſmall Sepulchre of ſix foot length.

5. Henry 2. began his reign October, 25. 1154. He reſtored the Barun blood, is reputed to be very lasivious, and was much perplexed with the Rebellion of his Children, he reigned 35 years 9 months and one day, and lies buried at Founteveard.

To the Empreſs Maud he was undoubted
heir,
And in her right his title being juſt,
By Juſtice he obtain'd the Regal Chair,
Laying his Enemies honour in the dust,
But wife and Sons to him prov'd deadly
foes,
Nor joy'd he peace till death his eyes did
cloſe.

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6. Richard 1 sirnamed Cour-de-lion, began his reign, July 6, 1189. A valiant prince, he warried ſtoutly in the Holy land, and was afterwards killed at Chalux in lymouſin; he reigned 9 years and 9 months, and was buried at Founteveard.

Jerusalem he conquer'd and ſet free,
From miſbeliving Jews and Turkiſh Spight,
The pagans [foes to Chriſt] he forc'd to flee.
And sicily ſubdued by his might;
Thus he abroad was honour manifold
And now a grave doth all his ſplendor hold.

VII. King John bagan his reign April, 6. 1199. he was much hated and tormented by the pope, and laſtly poiſoned by a Monk at Swinſtead Abbey, he reigned, 17 years and 6 Months, and lies buried at Worceſter.

Romes mighty miterr'd Metropolitian,
He did oppoſe, and was by him depos'd,
He turn'd his curſed bleſſings to his bane,
And caus'd him round to be with cares inclol'd:

At length when Seventeen years were
gone and paſt,
At Swinſtead poiſoned, there he drank
his laſt.

8 Henry III. Began his reign October
19. 1216. againſt him the Barons made
long Wars. He reigned 56 years and one
Month, and was buried at Weſtminſter.

The Barons did his Sovereignty withſtand,
And wrapt themſelves and him in Wars and
Woes,
But he with ſome ſtout Subjects bravely
man'd,
Repell'd, repulſed his inſulting foes.
In toils and trouble has he ſuffered pain,
The ſe were the triumph of his troublsome
reign.

9. Edward I. began his reign Novem ber
16. 1272. he likewise warried in the holy
land, conquered Scotland, and brought from
thence the Royal chair, which is yet to be
ſeen at the Abbey in Weſtminſter, he reign-
ed 34 years, 8 Months, and 6 days, and
lies buried at Weſtminſter.

His Victories, his Valour and his ſtrength,
His actions, and his never conquered Name
Where ſpread throughout the World in breadth and length,
By mortal deeds he won immortal fame,

Still where he fought triumphantly he won,
At laſt his Glory in a Grave were done.

10. Edward II. began his reign July 7 1307. A diſſolute Prince, whoſe immoderate love to Pierce Gaveſton and the two Spencers, wrought his downfal; he reigned 19 years, 6 months, and 5 days, and was buried at Cloceſter.

The hard miſhaps that did this King attend,
Which he endured the like was never ſeen,
His wretched life, and lamentable end,
Depos'd and murder'd by his cruel Queen;
Both Peers and people prov'd to him unkind,
So tortur'd was in body and in mind.

11. Edward III, began his reign January 25. 1326, He conquered France or the moſt part of it, though before his Death he

loſt it almoſt all again, ſave Calais; he reigned 51 years, 5 months, 7 days, and lyeth buried at Weſtminſter.

In Peace and war his Stars auſpicious ſtood
False Fortune ſtedfaſt held her wavering wheel,
He did revenge his Father's butcher'd blood
And forced France his furious force to feel,
But all his Triumphs, Fortunes, Strength and force,
Age brought to Death, and Death turn'd to a courſe.

11. Richard II. began his reign June 21 1377. a wilful King, againſt whom the commons roſe in Rebellions, the chief Ring leaders, of whom were Wat Tyler, and Jack Straw; he was laſtly depoſed by Henry Duke of Lancaſter: he Reigned 22 years, 3 months, and 14 days, and lies buried at Weſtminſter.

This Prince he was for blood, decent and form,
The perfect Image of a Royal ſtock,
But unadviſed advice did him deform;

Split all his hopes against despairs black rock
With wavering fortunes troublesome he reign'd,
Slain by foul Murther, peace and rest he gain'd.

13 Henry IV. began his reign September 29. 1399. a politic prince, he first set the Crown on the head of the line of Lancaster, reigned 12 years, 6 months, and 3 days he was buried at Canterbury.

Uncivil civil Wars this Realm molested,
And Englishmen did England spoil and waste,
Cause wrongfully he from King Richard wrested.
His Crown, and on his own head it misplaced:
But fatal fate his vital thread did cut,
And all his greatness in a Grave was put.

14 Henry V. Began his reign March 20. 1413. This King was the mirror of magnificence and pattern of true Chivalry. He conquered France, whose Son Henry was

Crowned King thereof in Paris. He Reigned 9 years, 5 months, and 14 days, and was buried at westminster.

Time his Sepulcher and his bones may rot,
But time can never end his endless fame,
Oblivion cannot his brave acts out-blot,
Or make forgetfulness forget his fame.

All France he banded with Balls and foils
Triumphantly transporting home their spoils

15 Henry VI. Began his Reign August 31. 1422. a pious King, but unfortunate in his wars, he lost all that his father won, and his own life at last to the Yorkish faction He reigned 38 years 6 Months, and 8 days, and was buried at Windsor.

Gainst him the house of York, their force did bend,
And peers and people welter'd in their Gore
His Crown and Kingdom they from him did rend,
Which he, his Sire, and Granfire kept and wore,
Twice was he Crown'd, uncrown'd oft blest oft crost,

And laſtly murder'd life and Kingdom
loſt,

16 Edward IV. began his reign March 4. 1460, He regained the Crown to the houſe of York, a lasivious Prince, yet wiſe and valiant: he reigned 23 years, 11 months, and 8 days, and was buried at Winchester.

This York great heir (by fell domeſtick war
Inthron'd was, unking'd, and re-inthron'd
Subjecting quite the Houſe of Lancaſter,
While woeful England overburthen'd
groan'd,
Thus as diſpoſing Heavens do ſmile or
frown,
So cares or comforts wait upon a Crown.

17 Edward V. Was proclaimed April 9. 1483 but before his Coranation he was murthered by his unnatural Uncle, and is not known where was buried.

What does avail to ſpring from Royal race
What ſurity is in beauty, ſtrength, or wit,

What is command, might eminence, and
place,
When Treaſon lurks where Majeſty doth
sit
Foul Treaſon all his Glory over-topt,
And e'er the Fruit could ſpring, the Tree
was lopt.

18 Richard III. Began his Reign June
18. 1483 a bloody Tyrant valiant, but
treacherous. He was laſtly killed at Boſ-
worth field by Henry Earl of Richmond.
He reigned 2 years 2 months, and 5 days,
and was buried at Leiceſter.

Ambitions like unto a quenchleſs thirſt,
Ambition Angels threw from Heaven to
Hell,
Ambition [that infernal Hag] accurſt,
Ambitiously made him aſpire, rebel:
By blood he won, by blood he loſt the
Throne,
Deteſted liv'd, dy'd, lov'd, bewail'd of
none.

19. Henry7 Began his reign April 22. 1585
He united the two Families of York and

Lancaſter into one, Reigned 25 Years 11. months, and 2 days, and lies at Weſtminſter.

The white and red roſe he conjoined faſt
In ſacred Marriages conjugal hand,
He traitors tam'd, and Treaſon ſtood aghaſt
At him, ſtrong guarded by his Makers hand.
In Glory and in Magnificence he reign'd,
At fame love and a Tomb was all he gain'd.

20 Henry VIII. Began his Reign April 22. 1509 He baniſhed the Popes Supremacy out of the land, pulled down the Abbey's, and conquered Bullogne from the French; he Reigned 39 Years, 9 months, and 2 days and was buried at Windſor.

In France he Bullen, Turwin, Turney, wan,
The ſtile of Faiths, Defender he did gain,
Six Wives he had, three Anns, two Kates, one Jane,
And baniſh'd Romiſh Uſurpation vain.
He made and marr'd, he did and he undid,
Till all his greatneſs in a Grave was hid.

21 Edward VI. began his Reign January 28. 1547. a right virtious Prince, he perferred the Reformation begun by his Father Reigned 6 years, 5 Months, and 19 days, and was buried at Weſtminſter.

From virtue unto virtue ſtill he ſtrove,
He liv'd belov'd both of God and Men,
His ſoul unto his Maker, ſoard above,
His earthly part return'd to Earth again,
Thus Death his fair preceedings did prevent,
And Peers and People did his loſs lament.

22. Queen Mary began her Reign July 6. 1553. She reſtored the Pope again to his Supremacy in England, and reſtored the maſs; towards the end of her Reign ſhe loſt Calais, which loſs as it is thought broke her heart, She Reigned five years, 4 Months, 22 days, and was buried at Weſtminſter.

No sooner ſhe poſſeſt the Royal Throne,
But true Religion ſtrait was diſſpoſſeſt,
Bad counſel caus'd Rome, Spain, and ſhe as one,
To proſecute, to martyre and moleſt.
No Bail would ſerve, they could command no aid,
Till ſhe at laſt within her grave was laid.

23 Queen Elizabeth began her Reign November 17 1558. She reſtored again the proteſtant Religion, helped the Dutch againſt the French the French proteſtants

againſt the Papists, and both against the Spaniard. She Reigned 44 years, 4 months and 16 days, and lies buried at Westminster.

The griefs, the fears, the terrors and the toils,
The sleights, tricks, ſnares, that for her life were laid,
Popes, Prisons, Poiſons, Piſtols bloody broils,
All theſe encompast her (heroic maid.)
She liv'd and dy'd a Queen, a maid, a matron.

24 James I. began his Reign March 24. 1602. He united the two Kingdoms of England and Scotland, and was only accounted the first Monarch of Great Britain, He reigned 22 years, and 3 days, and was buried at Westminster.

He cauſed Doctors with their learned pen,
The Sacred Bible newly to translate,
His wiſdom, found the damned powder'd Den
That Hell had hatcht to overthrow the ſtate.
Two famous Kingdoms he to one did bring

And gave loſt Britains name her name
again,

25 King Charles I. Began his Reign March 27. 1625. a right virtious, and pious King, who in defence of Church and laws loſt his life, being unnaturally murdered by the bloody Rebels before his own palace-Gate at Whitehall, He Reigned 23 years, 11 Months and 3 days, and lies buried at Windſor.

Illuſtrious off-ſpring of moſt glorious ſtems,
Religious Prince, moſt Royal Charles the
great,
Succeſſive Heir to four rich diadems
With gifts of Grace and learning high repleat,
His mortal part is now immortal made,
And he at Windſor in a Grave is laid.

26 Charles 2. Began his Reign Jan. 30. 1649. and reigned 36 years 6 days and was buried at Weſtminster.

It has been remark-d of this king, that he never ſaid a foolish thing, nor ever did a wise one: a cenſure which, though carried too far, ſeems to have had ſome foundation in his character and deportment.

From Norman William unto Charles the
second,
Twenty six Engliſh Kings and Queens are
reckon'd.
In fifty-eight uſurping Cromwell died,
In ſixty five the plague did curb our pride;
In twentyone the teſt did paſs a Godlike act,
And Habeus Corpus soon to it was tack'd:
Bleſſings like those indeed were great 'ees
recon'd
Long live the Memory of Charles the Second.

27 JAMES II. Began his reign Feb. 6. 1684. and reigned 3 years 10 months 12 days

The peoples rights were now infring'd alas,
And popery faſt flow'd in, with tinſel'd maſs
The people saw, reſolv'd to ſave their Church
Forc'd James to fly, leave Pop'ry in the lurch
In France for 12 years he kept his titles ſtill,
Then died ſubmiſsive to the Almighty's will.

28 William III. & Mary II. Began their Reign Feb, 13. 1688, and reigned 6 years 10 months and 15 days.

Now England freed from popiſh fury, rears
Aloft her head and bids Adieu to fears,
'Mongst other bleſſings that of toleration
Gave cause of joy exceſſive thro' the nation,
The Bill of rights secured the people's power,

The Bank of England rose its gold to shower.
In 94 Our Mary died her years but thirty three,
And William reign'd alone and mighty deeds did he.

28. William 3. Did reign 7 years & 8 days,

Fled James in Ireland lands and brings French troops;
But quickly is drove out with all his hopes,
War was declar'd 'gainst France and we
Soon got 15 fine ships from our old enemy,
La Hogues 10 hours battle with 2 days pursuit
Did humble France & popish James to boot.

29 Anne Began her reign March 8, 1701 and reigned 13 years 4 months and 23 days.

Confirm'd the Scottish Union is and done,
The twenty-four long years of war are ended,
Respect brave Malbrough the wreaths he won
His gallant deeds in arms all much befriended,
Gibralter form'd for strength was took
In Seventeen Hundred four by noble Rooke;
Our Anne liv'd fifty-years a Queen revered,
Her subjects pride to whom she was endear'd;

30 Geo. I. Began his reign August, 1. 1714, and reigned 12, years 10 months and 10 Days.

Rebellions Giant form now stalk'd 'ith north

To guide it on the EARL of MAN ſtept forth
Defeat he ſuffer'd thousands ten were ſlain,
Priſoners fifteen hundred with ſeven Lords were ta'en,
This reign now NEWTON died but ſtill his fame
Shall live coeval with the globe the ſame.

31 Geo II. Began 11. of June. 1727. and Died 25 of October 1760. in the 33 Year of his reign

Now arts and commerce ſhone with ſplendor bright.
Yet tired of war and taxes heavy weight,
The nation murmur'd at the load ſo vaſt,
But ſooth'd they were by victories ſo faſt
Each following on, Rodney ſwept the main
And laurels freſh he numberleſs did gain,
Immortal WOLFE'ith Weſt was conquering foes on ſhore,
And with QUEBEC he fell alas to riſe no more
This good old King liv'd near to ſeventy ſeven
His ſoul all HOPE has wing'd its way to heaven.

32 Geo. III Born June 4. 1738. Proclaimed King of Great Britain France and Ireland

Oct 25. 1760. Married Sep 8. 1761 to the
Princeſs Charllotte of Mecklenburgh Strelitz
born May. 19. 1744. Crown'd 22 Sep. 1761
Their Iſsue ſeven ſons and ſix Daughters,
Youngeſt born Auguſt 7. 1783.
On living merit praiſe does oft offend.
Who loves his country muſt this George
commend,
His ſubjects pride he lives, die when he will,
Henceforth will be revered by Britons ſtill,
Tho' France her empire with ſuch pomp
extends
England ſhall curb her then her glory ends
Our gallant tars will ſhew our Britiſh thunder,
All o'er the world and make the whole
ſtrike under
No monarch ever reign'd in Britains land,
Who more his ſubjects had at his command
Than George the third all love and all em-
plore
Kind Heaven on him its choiceſt gifts to pour
Our common parent who for us can feel
A fathers love with ferventeſt of Zeal
Bleſs'd be his days and long. When death
does come,
May Angels waft him to an endleſs home.

Of

Of the Natural Curioſities of England.

AMONG the natural curioſities of this country thoſe of Derbyſhire appear to deſerve the firſt place.

Eldon Hole, four miles from Mam Tor, which is ſaid to be continually mouldering away but never to become leſs, is a chaſm in the ſide of a mountain, nearly ſeven yards wide and fourteen long, diminiſhing in extent within the rock; but of what depth is not known. A plummet once drew 884yds. of line after it, of which the firſt eighty was wet, without finding a bottom.

The entrance of Pool's Hole, near Buxton, for ſeveral paces, is very low, but ſoon opens into a very lofty vault, like the inſide of a Gothic cathedral. The height is certainly very great, yet much ſhort of whatſome have aſſerted, who reckon it a quarter of a mile perpendicular; though in length it exceeds that dimenſion; a currant of water, which runs along the middle adds, by its ſounding ſtream re echoed on all ſides, very much to the aſtoniſhment of all who viſit this vaſt cavern.

The entrance into the ſtupendious cavern at Caſtleton is wide at firſt, and upwards of thirty feet perpendicular. Several cottagers dwell under it, who in a great meaſure ſubſiſt by guiding ſtrangers into the cavern, which is croſsed by four ſtreams of water, and then it is thought impaſſable.

Other extraordinary caverns are found in the mountains of the North of England; as Yordas Cave, in the vale of Kingſdale in Yorkſhire, which contains a ſubterraneous cascade. Wethercot Cave, not far from Ingleton, is divided by an arch of limeſtone, paſſing under which is ſeen a large caſcade falling from a height of more than twenty yards. The length of this Cave is about ſixty yards, and the breadth thirty.

There are also in various parts of England, many remarkable ſprings, of which are impregnated either with ſalt, as that of Droitwich in Worceſterſhire; or ſulphur, as the famous Well of Wigan in Lancashire; or bituminuous matter, as that at Pitchford in Shropſhire. Others have a petrifying quality as that near Lutterworth in Lieceſterſhire, and a dropping well in the Weſt Riding of Yorkſhire. And, finally, some ebb and flow as thoſe of the Peak in Derbyſhire; and Laywell, near Torbay, whoſe waters riſe &c

fall several times in an hour. To these we may add that remarkable fountain near Richard's Castle in Herfordshire, commonly called Bone well. which is generally full of small bones, like those of frogs or fish, tho' often cleared out. At ancliff, near wigan in Lancashire, is the famous burning Well; the water is cold, neither has it any smell; yet so strong a vapour of sulphur issues out with the steam, that, upon applying a light to it, the top of the water is cover'd with a flame, like that of burning spirits, which last several hours, and emits such a heat that meat may be boiled over it.

10 JU 22

FINIS.